

What is claimed is:

1. A method for generating a network topology map, comprising:  
receiving a map request from a remote node;  
invoking a mapview module configured to generate a topology map with gathered information; and  
transmitting said topology map to said remote node using a network protocol.
2. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 1, further comprising:  
adding a plurality of icons to said topology map, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate connection lines between a subplurality of icons of said plurality of icons.
3. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 1, further comprising:  
associating an output file stream with said topology map transmitted to said remote node.
4. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 1, further comprising:  
generating said topology map by receiving a command on said gathered information.

5. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 1, further comprising:

initializing a graphics driver, said graphics driver configured to provide an abstraction layer between said mapview module and a graphics library.

6. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 5, further comprising:

formatting said topology map to conform to a graphics format supported by said graphics library, wherein said graphics format includes a portable network graphics ("PNG") format.

7. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 5, further comprising

formatting said topology map to conform to a graphics format supported by said graphics library, wherein said graphics format includes a graphics interchange format ("GIF").

8. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 1, wherein said network protocol includes hypertext transfer protocol.

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9. A system for generating a network topology map, said system comprising:

at least one processor;

a memory coupled to said at least one processor;

a topology map module residing in said memory and executed by said at least one processor, wherein said topology map module is configured to receive a map request from a remote node, invoke a mapview module configured to generate a topology map with gathered information; and to transmit said topology map to said remote node using a network protocol.

10. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to add a plurality of icons to said topology map and to generate connection lines between a subplurality of icons of said plurality of icons.

11. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to associate an output file stream with said topology map transmitted to said remote node.

12. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate said topology map by initiating a command on said gathered information.

13. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate said topology map in a portable network graphics ("PNG") format.

14. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate said topology map in a graphics interchange format ("GIF").

15. A computer readable storage medium on which is embedded one or more computer programs, said one or more computer programs implementing a method for generating a network topology map, and comprising a set of instructions for:

receiving map request from a remote node;

invoking a mapview module configured to generate a topology map with gathered information; and

transmitting said topology map to said remote node using a network protocol.

16. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for:

adding a plurality of icons to said topology map, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate connection lines between a subplurality of icons of said plurality of icons.

17. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for associating an output file stream with said topology map to said remote node.

18. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for generating said topology map by initiating a command on said gathered information.

19. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions formatting said topology map to conform with a portable network graphics ("PNG") format.

20. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions formatting said topology map to conform with a graphics interchange format ("GIF").